

CHANGE IN HAWAII

Something About the Appointments.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER

The Advertiser's Special Correspondent Writes Entertainingly of Matters at the Capital.

WASHINGTON, May 6.—From the time the passage of the bill creating the new Territory of Hawaii became a certainty, there has never been any good reason to doubt that President McKinley would name President Dole as the first Governor. Senator Frye, as a loyal son of Maine, submitted the claims of Harold M. Sewall at the White House, but further than that it cannot be said the candidacy of the Special Agent of the United States in the Islands made any visible progress. The President took no pains not to let it be known days before he sent President Dole's nomination to the Senate what his decision would be, for he considered that the responsibilities President Dole had borne since the overthrow of the monarchy entitled him to be considered at the head of affairs after the establishment of the Territorial form of government. Neither did the appointment of Henry E. Cooper occasion any surprise, for the news of his probable nomination had been public property here for some days before it was officially announced.

It is undoubtedly the purpose of President McKinley to leave the administration of affairs in Hawaii in the hands of residents of the Islands, for he believes that the history of the last few years has proved that there is plenty of good material at home with which to fill the offices within his gift. Of course, there is no shortage on the continent in the supply of candidates for offices who have put themselves or been put forward by friends. Hawaii bears the reputation the United States over of having a most pleasant and salubrious climate, and when the opportunity is given to try life there at a good salary there is sure to be no end of takers. Acting within their inalienable rights as American citizens to seek office, the aspirants for places have been heard from all over the Union. They will be disappointed, for only two or three places will be given to non-residents of the Islands. One of these will probably be the United States Judgeship, to which Judge Morris M. Estee of California will most likely be appointed. Judge Estee has had a distinguished career in the Golden State, of which he has been a resident for about forty years. Political office has been offered him more often than he has sought it, because his record as an attorney and public character have made him a candidate in whom his party could take pride. It cannot be said of him that he is actively seeking this place, although it is known that he would be gratified to have the honor bestowed upon him, and the California members in Congress have come freely to his support. Judge Estee presided over the Republican National Convention that nominated President Benjamin Harrison, and the Pan-American Congress, and was Republican candidate for Governor of California in 1894 against James C. Budd. It has been repeatedly charged that he was counted out in the city of San Francisco and a majority of 1200 manufactured against him. At one time he was a large vineyardist in Napa County, California.

Another candidate for the United States Judgeship is Judge Greene of Alameda county, whose home is in Oakland. He has been on the bench for twenty years, and was a candidate for a Judgeship in Hawaii when it was thought the Fifty-fifth Congress would pass an act creating the Territory of Hawaii. If the California Republicans should become widely divided between these two candidates, it is possible the place may go to some other State. It is known Senator Allison has a nameless Iowa in training ready to start in the race on short notice. Senator Burrows of Michigan has also been at the White House, but declares he has no particular candidate in mind; but if the President is at a loss to fill any offices in Hawaii, he could produce, without hunting far, a good Michigan candidate for United States Judges and another for United States Marshal.

Another "Utlander" who is in line for appointment is C. J. Ray of Illinois, who has been Senator Cullom's secretary for a number of years. It is understood he will be made United States Marshal. The indications are that Collector Stackhouse will be appointed to take charge of the new United States customs district of Hawaii.

Judge Frear will certainly be made Chief Justice of the Territorial Supreme Court, and Judge Whiting Associate Justice. Judge Kalua, for Circuit Judge of Maui, is known to be in favor with the President. E. Cayless is endorsed by Senator McBride of Oregon for a similar place, and Gilbert F. Little of Hilo is hunting about Washington for support for one of the other places.

Neither General Hartwell nor Hon. W. O. Smith, who have done such valuable work here while Hawaiian legislation was under consideration in Congress, cared to accept any office, although there is reason to believe that both of them have made such a favorable impression on the President that he would have been pleased to have honored them both. General Hartwell was recommended for the Chief Justiceship, but because the President understood he did not care for the place it will pass to Judge Frear. Philip L.

Weaver has been spoken of for United States District Attorney. While the President's choice is not yet known, it is believed he will appoint a resident of the Islands.

By a singular oversight the Hawaiian bill as enacted into law established a United States customs district for the Territory of Hawaii, with ports of entry and delivery at Honolulu, Hilo, Mahukona and Kahului, but made absolutely no provision for the appointment of a customs collector and a corps of assistants such as exist of necessity in every customs district in the United States. This palpable error was not discovered until two days after the bill was approved by the President, and only then by Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Spaulding, who at once called the attention of Senator Morgan to the immediate need of supplementary legislation. A remedial measure has already been introduced by the Senator from Alabama. It is very brief and merely provides for the appointment of a collector of customs and such deputies and assistants as the Secretary of the Treasury shall deem necessary. The collector is to make Honolulu his headquarters.

One or two other matters that are not altogether satisfactorily disposed of in the general bill, have been engaging the attention of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster-General and were discussed at some length at the last Cabinet meeting. Secretary Gage, after careful study, is in doubt whether under the bill he is empowered to take up the outstanding Hawaiian bonds, amounting to about \$1,000,000. The treaty of annexation provided for the assumption of the Hawaiian bonded debt by the United States, but the recent law contained no such provision. The Cabinet agreed that the best way out of the difficulty would be for Congress to pass a special bill providing for the payment of the bonds by the Secretary of the Treasury, as the Hawaiian debt bears too large a rate of interest to be continued by the United States Treasury, especially when the vaults are running over with money. The question that disturbed Postmaster-General Smith was as to his right to extend the United States postal laws to the Islands under the terms of the act. In the case of Porto Rico it has been held that he had authority to establish postoffice and take full charge under the paragraph providing that all laws not inapplicable should apply to that Island, but Postmaster-General Smith and his associates in the Cabinet lean to the belief that further legislation will be necessary in the case of the Hawaiian Islands. If this opinion prevails, the President may send a special message to Congress, calling attention to the needs of the situation.

The recoinage of the silver money of the Islands will soon follow, and the substitution of U. S. silver dollars and subsidiary coins may be looked for within a few months. With the disappearance of the distinctive stamp and coin of Hawaii will follow an eager demand for specimens of both by the philatelist and numismatist, who can afford to hold them until time adds value to their collections.

The Secretary of the Navy is entirely convinced of the wisdom of hastening the work of improving Pearl Harbor with the object of establishing a naval station, and has recommended that the sum of \$100,000 appropriated for that purpose in the river and harbor act of March 3, 1899, be transferred from the jurisdiction of the War Department to that of the Navy Department, by which he thinks the work can be better done. It will be remembered that Rear-Admiral Walker, U. S. N., reported favorably on this project as long ago as July 11, 1894, to the Fifty-third Congress. Since then the surveys have all been made by the Navy, but the site for the naval station has not been acquired.

Senator Hale of Maine, chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, has taken up the matter and has introduced a bill covering the whole subject. It authorizes the Secretary of the Navy to acquire immediately by purchase or condemnation proceedings, for the purpose of establishing a naval station in Pearl Harbor, the following tracts of land, aggregating 1880 acres: The island known as Mokuumeume or Ford Island, comprising about 370 acres; the peninsula tract of Walpio of about 820 acres; a tract comprising about 385 acres lying to the eastward and fronting upon the entrance of the harbor; and a tract of about 305 acres lying to the westward of and fronting upon the harbor entrance. For these purposes \$150,000 are to be appropriated. For the purpose of dredging and improving the channel leading to Pearl Harbor, in order to provide safe entrance for vessels up to 6000 tons displacement, \$400,000 is to be appropriated to be expended under supervision of the Navy Department, in addition to \$100,000 previously appropriated for expenditure by the War Department. None of these appropriations for dredging are to be available until title to the lands required for the naval station shall have been acquired.

L. R. E. PAULIN

TAGAL REBELS ACTIVE

They Burn Bulan and Assault the Barotac Garrison.

MANILA, May 8.—Unofficial letters received here state that 3,000 insurgents burned Bulan, in South Luzon, on May 4, and drove out fifty men of the Forty-seventh Volunteer Infantry, garrisoning the place. They killed many Spanish and Chinese residents. Last week some Sorogon firms, in response to a petition, sent a steamer to rescue the merchants of Bulan, who were expecting the attack. Details of the affair are meager, but it is reported the American troops were forced to take refuge aboard ships, and that a gunboat shelled the city while the rebels looted and burned it. Bulan had a population of 20,000 and there were many large commercial establishments located there. Twenty-seven Spaniards, liberated in Batangas province, arrived in Manila this morning.

MANILA, May 8.—A force of rebels on May 2 attacked twenty men of Company I of the Forty-fourth Regiment, stationed at Barotac, Iloilo province, Island of Panay. Three of the Americans were killed and seven were wounded. The enemy, estimated to number 400 men, surrounded Barotac and attacked the place on all sides. After two men had been killed and four wounded, the American commander sent four men to try to get through to communicate with the remainder of the company at Dumangas. Of the four men one was killed and three were wounded. The latter managed to return to Barotac. A friendly native finally brought news of the fight to a company of the Twenty-sixth, who succored the garrison of Barotac on the night of May 3. The enemy's losses were heavy.

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